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BOOK MESSAGE AS BELOW

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HAGU		BACH	HEUD	TFLI		RYOD	KING	SIAM				

PDEAND

WORLD BRIEF

(NOBORN IN SLANTS. REMAINING INFO RELEASABLE TO LIAISON)

1. BERLIN: THE COMMUNISTS VIEW AS "OFFICIAL" THE TALKS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST BERLIN NEGOTIATORS WHICH ACHIEVED THE AGREEMENT ON CHRISTMAS PASSES AND CONSIDER THEM A BOOST TO MOSCOW'S "FREE CITY" PROPOSAL FOR WEST BERLIN. WILLY BRANDT, ON THE OTHER HAND, REGARDS THEM AS ONLY "TECHNICAL" AND AS NO SETBACK TO HIS STATURE IN WEST GERMAN POLITICS.

2. YUGOSLAVIA: //TITO IS APPARENTLY NO LONGER DEEPLY INVOLVED IN ADMINISTRATION OF YUGOSLAV AFFAIRS. HE HAS EXHIBITED LACK OF KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF A NUMBER OF FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES AND HAS BEEN DIVESTING HIMSELF OF RESPONSIBILITIES. TWO RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT HIS FACULTIES HAVE DIMMED //

3. NORTH VIETNAM: HEAVY PROPAGANDA EMPHASIS ON THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH VIETNAM

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SUGGESTS A GROWING CONFIDENCE IN HANOI THAT INSURGENTS CAN SUSTAIN AND IMPROVE THEIR POSITION DESPITE IS BACKING OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. (CONF)

4. USSR: COASTAL DEFENSE CRUISE MISSILES ^{REPORTEDLY} ARE PART OF THE COAST GUARD FORCES, ~~ADDITIONAL~~ CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE SOVIET-DOMINATED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM IS ALSO INCREASING. A SOVIET SO-1-CLASS SUBCHASER HAS ARRIVED IN CUBAN WATERS AND TWO OTHERS ARE PROBABLY EN ROUTE.

5. USSR: KHRUSHCHEV'S LONG-RANGE PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOVIET CHEMICAL INDUSTRY IS TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY RETRENCHMENT IN OTHER PARTS OF THE ECONOMY DURING THE NEXT TWO YEARS. HOUSING, CONSUMER SERVICES, AND SOME HEAVY INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION ARE TO BE AFFECTED, AND IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE A SLOWING IN THE RATE AT WHICH MILITARY EXPENDITURES HAVE INCREASED SINCE 1960.

6. ITALY: DOUBTS ABOUT THE MORO GOVERNMENT'S VIABILITY HAVE SUBSIDED SOMEWHAT AS A RESULT OF STRONG VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IT RECEIVED ON 17 DEC. MORO'S AUTHORITY HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED BY HIS REPEATED REFUSAL TO MAKE ANY DEAL WITH LEFTWING FORCES. MORO HAS SAID HE WILL

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SUPPORT ON THE CONFIDENCE VOTE MORO'S POSITION IS FIRMER BECAUSE OF THIS AND BECAUSE OF THE VATICAN'S PRESSURE ON CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS RIGHTWINGERS NOT TO BREAK PARTY UNITY (CONF)

7. CUBA. THE CASTRO REGIME SEEMS INTENT ON CULTIVATING AFRICAN COUNTRIES AS WAY OF LESSENING ITS ISOLATION FROM THE FREE WORLD AN EMBASSY IN TANGANYIKA INDICATES THIS. IN ADDITION, CUBA HAS, DURING THE PAST MONTH, EXPANDED CONTACTS WITH NINE COUNTRIES SOUTH OF THE SAHARA. THERE IS ALSO REASON TO SUSPECT AFRICANS GOING TO CUBA ON SCHOLARSHIPS ARE GETTING TRAINING IN GUERRILLA WARFARE TECHNIQUES.

8. UK//BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY UNDER THE DOUGLAS-HOME GOVERNMENT INCREASINGLY FOCUSED ON KEEPING THE EAST-WEST DIALOGUE OPEN AND IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH WEST GERMANY. BOTH SIR ALEX AND FOREIGN SECRETARY BUTLER ESPECIALLY DETERMINED TO KEEP EXPLORING AREAS POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WITH MOSCOW -- A POLICY WHICH PAID OFF HANDSOMELY FOR CONSERVATIVES IN ELECTIONS OF 1955 AND 1959. MAIN OBJECTIVE -- BUTLER'S RECENT VISIT, DOWN WAS TO SOUND OUT GERMAN REACTION TO SUCH BRITISH INITIATIVES //

9. BRITISH GUIANA JAGAN AND HIS LIEUTENANTS HAVE BEEN ATTACKING

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THE UK AND US IN INCREASINGLY VITRIOLIC TERMS. HIS PARTY IS PARALYZED BY INTERNAL DIVISIONS AND IS UNDECIDED WHETHER TO CONTEST THE PRE-INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS SET FOR NEXT YEAR OR TRY TO BLOCK THEM BY RESORTING TO VIOLENCE. OPPOSITION PARTIES, MEANWHILE HAVE SOME LITTLE TO COOPERATE AGAINST JAPAN BEYOND REACHING A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT NOT TO ATTACK EACH OTHER PUBLICLY.

10. FRANCE: PARIS IS TRYING TO PROMOTE TRADE WITH COMMUNIST CHINA BY ENCOURAGING PRIVATE FIRMS TO DEVELOP NEW MARKETS THERE. THERE ARE BUILT IN LIMITATIONS TO THE EXTENT THAT FRENCH-CHINESE TRADE CAN GROW, COMPLEMENTARY PRODUCTS ARE FEW, AND CREDIT PROBLEMS CONTINUE TO LIMIT PURCHASES BY CHINESE WHO SEEM PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN OBTAINING FRENCH TECHNICAL SKILLS. PARIS INTEREST IN CHINESE TRADE AND EXPANDED CULTURAL CONTACTS WITH PEIPING HAVE STIMULATED SPECULATION THAT SOME SORT OF DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION IS IN THE OFFING. THIS IS STOUTLY DENIED AT ALL LEVELS OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

11. FINLAND: FOR THE SECOND TIME IN FOUR MONTHS FINLAND IS GOING THROUGH A CABINET CRISIS BROUGHT ON BY DISAGREEMENT WITHIN THE RULING COALITION OVER DOMESTIC LEGISLATION. A NON-POLITICAL GOVERNMENT

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CIVIL SERVANTS, HEADED BY ECONOMIST REINO LENTO, HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO SERVE UNTIL THE PRESENT CONTROVERSY IS RESOLVED. THE ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS SEEM LIMITED TO AGRARIAN MINORITY GOVERNMENT RECONSTITUTION OF AGRARIAN-DOMINATED COALITION OR AS A LAST RESORT GENERAL ELECTIONS. WHATEVER THE OUTCOME, PRESIDENT KKKKONEN DESIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. MOSCOW CAME OUT AGAIN DURING HIS TRIP TO THE USSR.

(CONTINUE)

12. SOUTH KOREA: PRESIDENT PAK CHONG-HUI'S DOMINATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY INAUGURATED ON 17 DEC UNDER SOUTH KOREA'S NEW CONSTITUTIONAL REGIME MAY TRANSFER POLITICAL IMPORTING TO A NEW ARENA. THE CONTROVERSIAL FORMER SECURITY CHIEF KIM CHONG-PIL CONTROLS THE PARTY APPARATUS, AND HIS MANY ENEMIES ARE LIKELY TO TRY TO USE THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES TO TRY TO WREST POWER FROM HIM. PRESIDENT PAK STILL BACKS KIM, HOWEVER, AND THEY AND THEIR COHORTS WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE THE GOVERNMENT'S MAJOR DECISIONS. THE CABINET HEADED BY CHOE TU-SUN APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN WITH A MIND TO BALANCING FACTIONAL AND SECTIONAL INTERESTS AND FOR AN ABILITY TO CARRY OUT, RATHER THAN FORMULATE POLICY. WITH ELECTIONS OVER, THE REGIME IS

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LIKELY TO SPEED DECISIONS ON LONG OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS. A STAGNANT ECONOMY HURT BY INFLATION IS THE MOST PRESSING ONE. DISCONTENT WITH RISING PRICES EXTENDS INTO THE ARMED FORCES. PAK IS ALSO ANXIOUS TO CONCLUDE THE TEN-YEAR OLD NEGOTIATIONS FOR A NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH JAPAN. (CONF)

13. TURKEY: THE THREE-WEEK OLD CABINET CRISIS APPEARS TO BE APPROACHING A CLIMAX FOLLOWING THE FAILURE OF BOTH MAJOR PARTIES TO BRING MINOR PARTIES INTO COALITION ARRANGEMENTS. ONLY A COALITION BETWEEN THESE TWO, PRIME MINISTER INONU'S REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY AND THE JUSTICE PARTY, OR A "NATIONAL COALITION" OF ALL POLITICAL GROUPS, REMAINS TO BE TRIED. DESPITE THE DEEP DIFFERENCES, AN ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE TWO MAY PROVE FEASIBLE, FOR THE POLITICIANS FEAR THAT EXTENDING THE CRISIS MUCH LONGER MIGHT PROVOKE MILITARY INTERVENTION. (CONF)

14. CONGO: THE ADOULA REGIME'S POSITION REMAINS PRECARIOUS. ITS EXTREME LEFTIST OPPONENTS JOINED IN A "COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION" CONTINUE TO PLOT AGAINST IT FROM THEIR BRAZZAVILLE BASE. (CNL) YOUGH SOMEWHAT CRIPPLED BY LEOPOLDVILLE'S EXPLOSION OF THEIR SOVIET

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EMBASSY CONTACTS, THE EXILES HAVE SENT ENVOYS ABROAD TO SEEK
FUNDING AND ARMS. THEIR PLANS REPORTEDLY INCLUDE ASSASSINATION OF
LEOPOLDVILLE LEADERS, AN "INVASION" OF THE CONGO, AND INSTIGATION
A COUP BY THE CONGO ARMY. THE WEAKNESS OF THE LEOPOLDVILLE REGIME
ESPECIALLY THE QUESTIONABLE RELIABILITY OF GENERAL MOBUTU'S ARMY
CLEARLY ENHANCES THE CNL PROSPECTS. LAST MONTH MOBUTU AND SURETE
CHIEF NINDAKA, THE REGIME'S TWO KEYSTONES, WERE WAYLAYED BY SOLDIERS
AND NEARLY KILLED. STUDENT AGITATION MAY BECOME A FACTOR IN VIEW OF
THE CLOSE CONNECTIONS TO STUDENT GROUPS OF TWO HIGH OFFICIALS RECENTLY
OUSTED -- FOREIGN MINISTER MABIKA-KALANDA AND LONDON CHARGE THOMAS
KANZA. IN THE NEWEST DELIBERATIONS TOWARD WRITING A CONSTITUTION
PROVINCIAL VOICES DESIRING A LOOSE ARRANGEMENT APPEAR STRONGER THAN
SUPPORTERS OF ADOPTING A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT //

15. LAOS // RIGHT-WING AND NEUTRALIST MILITARY FORCES ENCOURAGED
BY RECENT SUCCESSSES IN CENTRAL AND NORTHERN LAOS, ARE CONSIDERING SOME
INITIATIVES. THEY ARE PLANNING MOVES AIMED AT CAPTURING THE LAOS
RESIGNED XIENG KHOANG AND FURTHER SOUTH OPERATIONS AGAINST
COMMUNIST SUPPLY ROUTES FROM NORTH VIETNAM. COMMUNISTS REINFORCED

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HAVE RECAPTURED THE KEY ROAD JUNCTION OF LAK SAO, HOWEVER, AND RETAIN
 THE CAPABILITY TO MAKE SHARP COUNTERMOVES ELSEWHERE. THE CONTINUING
 MILITARY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN PATHEI LAO AND NEUTRALIST FACTIONS HAVE
 BEEN MARKED BY ACERBIOUS EXCHANGES, BUT THE PATHEI LAO HAVE
 EXPRESSED NEW INTEREST IN ARRANGING A MEETING BETWEEN THEIR CHIEF
 PABCE SOMPANNOUVONG AND PREMIER SOUVANNA PHOMMA TO ARRANGE FOR
 FULL PATHEI LAO PARTICIPATION IN THE COALITION GOVERNMENT. COUP RUMORS,
 MOSTLY CENTERING ON PLANS BY RIGHT-WING MILITARY ELEMENTS ALLIED WITH
 THE SARANIKONE CLAN, CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE IN VIENTIANE. //

James H. Kingston
 JAMES H. KINGSTON

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